

*AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS*

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) Microcapsules comprising:
  - a) a core ~~which contains~~ containing at least one rubber additive,
  - b) at least ~~one shell~~ two shells ~~made of a first polymer from an amino resin;~~ and,
  - c) at least one ~~coating made of~~ sliding or wearing layer applied to the surface of the microcapsules selected from the group of polyacrylates, polyacrylonitriles, polyethylene glycols, ethyl celluloses, starch fatty acid esters and starch carbamates of long-chain isocyanates, or from low-molecular inorganic or organic compounds selected from the group of waxes, fatty acid derivatives, silicones, siloxanes and silicates
    - i) ~~a second polymer, which differs from the first polymer, and/or~~
    - ii) ~~a low molecular inorganic or organic compound, wherein the coating is deposited on the surface of the microcapsules as sliding or wearing layer in order to reduce the static friction.~~
2. (Currently Amended) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the ~~shell~~ isshells are mechanically stable and thermally stable up to at least 120°C.
3. (Previously Presented) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the rubber additive can be released in a controlled manner under vulcanisation conditions.
4. (Previously Presented) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the rubber additive is ground or liquid sulphur.
5. (Currently Amended) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the ~~sulphur~~ proportion of sulphur in the microcapsules is more than 50% by weight, ~~preferably between 80 and 95% by weight.~~
6. (Currently Amended) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the ~~first polymer~~ amino resin is selected from the ~~group of amino resins, such as dicyandiamide formaldehyde resin, or melamine formaldehyde resin, or phenol formaldehyde resin.~~
- 7-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the average particle diameter of the microcapsules is between 1 and 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , ~~preferable between 5 and 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .~~

10. (Previously Presented) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the shell has a thickness between 30 and 100 nm.

11. (Previously Presented) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the shell and the at least one coating together have a thickness between 40 and 200 nm.

12. (Currently Amended) Method for producing microcapsules made of a core which contains at least one rubber additive, ~~of a shell or~~ and at least two shells made of a first polymer and ~~[[of]]~~ at least one sliding or wearing layer as in claim 1 comprising with the following steps:

a) dispersing the rubber additive in a prepolymer solution ~~forming the first polymer, that forms the first shell;~~

b) curing the ~~microcapsule~~ microcapsules chemically, ~~e.g.~~ by the addition of a catalyst and/or by increasing the temperature,

c) depositing the second shell from a prepolymer solution that forms the second shell; and

d) depositing at least one sliding or wearing layer made of a second polymer, which differs from the first polymer, and/or of a low molecular inorganic or organic compound on the surface of the microcapsule microcapsules.

13. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 12, wherein ground or liquid sulphur is used as rubber additive.

14. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 12, wherein a reactive resin selected from the group of melamine formaldehyde resin or phenol formaldehyde resin is used as first polymer that form the shells.

15. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 12, wherein after the curing in step b), the microcapsules are separated from the prepolymer solution.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 12, wherein the ~~second polymer~~ sliding or wearing layer is deposited by means of coacervation, solvent evaporation, salting-out or spray-drying.

18. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 12, wherein the sliding or wearing layer is formed from low molecular inorganic or organic ~~compound is deposited~~ compounds deposited from organic solution or aqueous dispersion.

19. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim ~~[[18]]~~ 12, wherein the sliding or wearing layer is deposited by spraying processes.

20. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 12, wherein the ~~microcapsule~~ microcapsules, during deposition in step ~~[[c]]~~ d), ~~[[is]]~~ are granulated by means of the ~~second polymer and/or the low molecular inorganic or organic compound~~ sliding or wearing layer.

21. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 12, wherein the ~~microcapsule~~ microcapsules, after deposition in step ~~[[c]]~~ d), ~~[[is]]~~ are granulated by means of a granulation aid.

22. (Previously Presented) Use of the microcapsules according to claim 1, for rubber vulcanisation.

23. (New) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the proportion of sulphur in the microcapsules is between 80 and 95% by weight.

24. (New) Microcapsules according to claim 1, wherein the average particle diameter of the microcapsules is between 5 and 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .